(d) what steps Government are taking to supply coal to small scale industrial units as per their requirements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) There have been shortfalls in supply of coal by rail to non-core sector consumers including small scale industrial units in North India. Representations have also been received in this regard. Shortfalls have occurred because of priority accorded in movement of coal to core sectors like Power, Steel, Loco, Cement and Fertilizers etc. However coal supplies to non-core sector consumers during the year 1991-92. have been more or less of the same order as during 1990-91. Government have instructed all the coal companies to supply at least 50 per cent of the linked quantity of coal to all the non-core sector consumers, including small scale industrial units, by rail or by road. Besides, Coal India Limited are offiering 20 million tonnes of coal to the consumers which could be lifted by them without sponsorship from pitheads under stock liquidation programme. small scale industrial units can also avail of this opportunity.

Injury sustained by employees of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

759. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of Neyveli Lignite Corporation were injured by the blasting of the corborator tank during the strike in June, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the management took action against the person responsible for accidents;

(c) whether the Engineers Association of N.L.C. has made any protest against the management; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir, On 16-6-1992, during the general strike, an accident in the Briquetting & Carbonisation plant occurred in which 14 workers were injured, of whom two subsequently succumbed to their injuries.

(b) Two of the Executives in charge of the operation were suspended on 18-6-1992. A Committee consisting of senior officers of NLC and an outside expert was constituted by NLC management on 17-6-1992 to go into the causes of the accident, fix responsibility and suggest remedial action.

(c) and (d) The Associations representing the Engineers and the officers stopped working from the III shift of 17-06-1992 in protest aginst the suspension. After discussions, they resumed work from the II shift of 19-06-1992. On receipt of the interim report of the Committee exonerating the two (suspended) Executives, the suspension order were revoked on 20-06-1992.

Integrated mining complex for a mine washery and a Power Plant

760. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up an integrated mining complex for developing a mine, a washery and power plant on a turnkey basis;

(b) whether provision for buy back arrangement for coal was discussed in the meeting of the Indo-French Working group; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) During the Eleventh meeting of the Indo-French Working Group on Coal held in Paris in June, 1992, the Indian side had re-